

19 September 1952 L-156

SUBJECT: Ferdinand DURCANSKY

1. Some days ago, Mr. Ferdinand DURCANSKY had a conversation with priest KOSTOLNY in Salzburg.
 2. During such conversation DURCANSKY mentioned that he greatly disapproved the attack instigated by Jozef WALEO against Father SMICHRAST in December 1951 (please refer to my letters L-55, dated 19 December 1951, subject: Salzburg Police investigation against Reverend Karel SMICHRAST for alleged Embezzlement, and L-63, dated 5 February 1952, same Subject).
 3. Regarding his trip to Europe, DURCANSKY showed rather disappointed. His endeavors to establish closer connections with U.S. circles had failed, whereas the Germans, regarding Slovakian questions, still kept waiting - an attitude which he is inclined to partly attribute also to CERNAK's activity for SIDOR - and are not yet strong enough to have some influence in Middle Europe. He felt however sure that in due course the Germans will again play a leading role, a fact also desired by a number of Bonn foreign office personalities.
 4. Regarding Slovakia, DURCANSKY still represented the idea of a continuity of the Slovakian State of 1939. In this question he fully agreed with the Germans.
 5. KOSTOLNY replied that in such case Minister HASIK would have to become leader of the Slovakian emigration because, according to the Slovakian constitution, the minister oldest in rank becomes head of the state, if there is no president or prime minister. (HASIK, who presently lives in Argentina, is a personal enemy of DURCANSKY.) KOSTOLNY further stated that only three fourths of the Slovakian territory could be taken into consideration, because in 1939 one fourth was under Hungarian rule.
- DURCANSKY answered evasively, but emphasized that his policy was driving at an inseparated Slovakia.

Encl. /

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